Israel or the U.S., what stands out is that, for the vast majority, the scars of war have never been erased. Brachfeld also includes Jewish rescuers, none of whom to this day has been recognized by Yad Vashem. The list of Belgian “Righteous among the Nations” at Yad Vashem—to date, over 1,500 names—is annexed. In addition, there are interviews with Jewish leaders, an introduction on the history of the period, an extensive study on the collaboration of the Antwerp police in rounding up the city’s Jews, a list of 592 institutions that sheltered Jews, and more than 275 photos. Brachfeld uses his journalistic expertise to great advantage in this comprehensive and well-researched book.

BEYOND ANNE FRANK

By Diane Wolf

University of California Press, 2007

www.ucpress.edu, $21.95

The image of the Jewish child hiding from the Nazis was shaped by Anne Frank, whose house—the most visited site in the Netherlands—has become a shrine to the Holocaust. Anne Frank’s story continues to perpetuate the myth of Dutch tolerance and resistance. Yet her hiding experience was an anomaly. The true story of the Holocaust in Holland is one of complicity with the Nazis and indifference to Jewish suffering. Wolf uncovers anti-Semitism in the policies and practices of the Dutch state and the general population that belied the common perception of relative benevolence toward the Jews.

Drawing on interviews with 70 Jewish men and women who, as children, were placed in non-Jewish families during the Nazi occupation of Holland, Diane L. Wolf paints a compelling portrait of Holocaust survivors.

AND LIFE IS CHANGED FOREVER: HOLOCAUST CHILDHOODS REMEMBERED

Edited by Martin Perlmutter

Glasner and Robert Krell

Sponsored by the Holocaust Child Survivors of Connecticut

Wayne State University Press, Detroit, $29.95

This distinctive volume contains 20 first-person narrative essays from child survivors of the Holocaust. Because they were children, aged 2 to 16, their experiences and outlooks are very different from those of adult survivors.

While most Holocaust memoirs focus on an individual or one country, And Life Is Changed Forever offers a varied collection of compelling reflections. The survivors come from Germany, Poland, Austria, Romania, Hungary, Italy, Greece, France, the Netherlands, Belgium, Latvia, and Czechoslovakia. All of the contributors escaped death, but they did so in myriad ways. Some children posed as Gentiles or were hidden by sympathizers; some went to concentration camps and survived slave labor; some escaped on the Kindertransports, and some were sent to endure hardships in a “safe” location such as Siberia or unoccupied France. While each essay is intensely personal, all speak to the universal horrors and the triumphs of all children who have survived persecution. And Life Is Changed Forever also focuses on what these children became: teachers, engineers, physicians, entrepreneurs, librarians, parents, and grandparents—and explores the impact of the Holocaust on their later lives.